

**SalemRecycles**  
**Meeting of Tuesday, March 5th, 2019**

Attendees: Nancy Gilberg, Micaela Gugliemi, Shelby Hypes, Tony Keck, Lynn Murray, Melynn Nuite, John Roberts, Liz Vago, Geri Yuhas

Guests: Kristin Woodruff

Absent: Beth Gillett, Carol Hautau, Erin Huggard, Julie Rose, Susan Yochelson

The minutes from the meeting of February 5th were approved pending reordering of those in attendance.

**Old Business**

The new GreenSalem website is up, running and being heavily promoted. Kudos to the team that developed it. Like any website, it is a work in progress and constantly changing. Suggestions and/or updates are welcome and should be forwarded to Micaela. A discussion ensued about themes and general trends. It was agreed that the emphasis is shifting from recycling to reuse, repair, and reduction in need for new products. However, recycling is still extremely important and mandated by law. Any shift in emphasis from recycling to the latter three "Rs" will take a great deal of education and time.

**New Business**

**Book Swap**

The next book swap will be held on Saturday, March 16th from 10am to 1pm at the Salem Community Life Center on Bridge Street. It was determined that we have enough volunteers for it but additional help is always welcome. There was some discussion about where best to locate the bag swap. It was suggested that some signage be placed nearby that "encourages" attendees to limit themselves to two bags in order not to run out early. Yard signs promoting the swap are available and are to be placed out the week of the swap only and not before. Please let Micaela or Julie know if you would like a yard sign to put up.

**Repair Cafe**

The Repair Cafe will be held on Saturday, April 6th at the Bridge at 211 from 9-11:30 am. Please emphasize that the last appointment is at 11:30 am and the event ends promptly at noon. It looks as though we have enough tinkerers and volunteers though like most events more is usually better. Tony reported that the heat issue is being addressed. Attendees are encouraged to register with Julie Rose in advance specifying a particular type of repair and a designated time. Attendees are limited to two items per person. Tony also stated that we cannot affix any type or signage to the building. Instead, all signage must be free standing or can be printed and have Bridge at 211 staff post in the message boards.

**Subcommittee Updates**

**Butt Bin Committee**

It was reported that there may be an additional person interested in adopting a Butt Bin. Micaela is talking with him about finding a location for his bin.

#### Mandatory Recycling and Hauler Ordinance

The list of haulers who are subject to this ordinance is still being developed. One way to identify them is to figure out which buildings are not being billed by the City.

#### Straw Reduction

There is a letter signed by Julie Rose and Barbara Warren and being sent to restaurants that is requesting that they reduce the use of plastic straws or switch to paper ones. There are some interns from Salem Sound Coastwatch delivering the letters. Committee members offered anecdotal evidence as to where these efforts were succeeding and where there is work to be done.

#### School Recycling Grant

Micaela stated that there is nothing new to report and that she and Julie will be meeting with school personnel next week.

#### Waste Reduction Coordinator Update

Micaela has continued her efforts to educate residents about proper recycling and when necessary leaving a sticker to indicate where they have fallen short. A suggestion was made to reach out to local realtors to have them promote the U-Haul cardboard box swap effort.

#### Facebook

There are now 2,175 likes. For the Book Swap, there are 192 who indicated that they are attending and another 1,658 who are interested. E-Waste - 40 who indicated that they are going.

#### Newsletter

Susan is starting a new newsletter that will include Tony's article on straw use. Liz brought up the issue of people not knowing the damage caused by throwing old meds into the toilet and eventual getting into the water system. Tony will do a future article on this issue.

#### Salem Film Festival

SalemRecycles is sponsoring a film again this year. Melynn sent in her picks as soon as the call came out. This year, there are three films that focus on environmental issues.

#### PEM Event

The PEM is hosting an event on sustainable fashion on April 13th from 10-5. They will focus on vintage fashions, up cycling, have various presentations and a film on the subject. SalemRecycles has been asked to partner with them on this effort. Helpsy will be collecting textiles at this event.

#### Instagram

Nancy requested that Micaela give a brief tutorial on Instagram to committee members who are interested in increasing their social media skills during the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn Murray